

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1 - 20 (Canceled)

Claim 21 (New): A method for preventing biological adhesion comprising the steps of:

providing an adhesion preventive material comprising a crosslinking polysaccharide derivative containing at least one active ester group introduced in a polysaccharide side chain, which is capable of reacting with an active hydrogen-containing group,

reacting the adhesion preventive material in the presence of water in a biological site under an alkaline condition,

forming a crosslinked material due to covalent binding of the active ester group and the active hydrogen-containing group,

wherein the method is effective to prevent biological adhesion in the biological site.

Claim 22 (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein the active hydrogen-containing group is a hydroxyl group in a polysaccharide molecule, and the polysaccharide derivative is self-crosslinking.

Claim 23 (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein the active hydrogen-containing group is an active hydrogen-containing group on a biological surface, and the polysaccharide derivative is capable of adhering to the biological surface.

Claim 24 (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein the active ester group is an ester group in which an electrophilic group is bound to a carbonyl carbon thereof.

Claim 25 (New): The method according to claim 24, wherein the electrophilic group is a group introduced from an N-hydroxyamine based compound.

Claim 26 (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein the polysaccharide derivative contains the active ester group in an amount of from 0.1 to 2 mmoles/g on the basis of the dry weight thereof.

Claim 27 (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein the polysaccharide derivative further contains a carboxyl group and/or a carboxyalkyl group.

Claim 28 (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein the polysaccharide derivative is of a non-salt type.

Claim 29 (New): The method according to claim 27, wherein a raw material polysaccharide into which the active ester group is introduced is a polysaccharide which is soluble in an aprotic polar solvent at a temperature between 60 °C and 120 °C in a non-salt

type thereof in a precursor stage of the crosslinking polysaccharide derivative containing a carboxyl group and/or a carboxyalkyl group.

Claim 30 (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein the raw material polysaccharide into which the active ester group is introduced is a polysaccharide which contains neither a carboxyl group nor a carboxyalkyl group by itself.

Claim 31 (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein the alkaline condition is in the pH range of from 7.5 to 12.

Claim 32 (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein the adhesion preventive material further comprising a polymer other than the cross-linking polysaccharide derivative.

Claim 33 (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein the adhesion preventive material further comprising a pH adjuster in a non-mixed state with the cross-linking polysaccharide derivative.

Claim 34 (New): The method according to claim 33, wherein the adhesion preventive material further comprises a polymer other than the cross-linking polysaccharide derivative.

Claim 35 (New): The method according to claim 22, wherein the active hydrogen-containing group is an active hydrogen-containing group on a biological surface, and the polysaccharide derivative is capable of adhering to the biological surface.

Claim 36 (New): The method according to claim 22, wherein the active ester group is an ester group in which an electrophilic group is bound to a carbonyl carbon thereof.

Claim 37 (New): The method according to claim 22, wherein the polysaccharide derivative contains the active ester group in an amount of from 0.1 to 2 mmoles/g on the basis of the dry weight thereof.

Claim 38 (New): The method according to claim 22, wherein the polysaccharide derivative further contains a carboxyl group and/or a carboxyalkyl group.

Claim 39 (New): The method according to claim 22, wherein the polysaccharide derivative is of a non-salt type.